

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 05027 271154 Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 EB-11 AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AGR-20

COME-00 DPW-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 /161 W

----- 030486

R 271038 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9237

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOQ

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

USDEL FRANCE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT THIEU SPEAKS ON FARMERS' DAY, PROMISIS NEW RURAL
ECONOMIC REFORM PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY. PRESIDENT THIEU SPOKE AT CEREMONIES OBSERVING THE
THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAND TO THE TILLER PROGRAM (LTT) ON MARCH
26. HE STATED THAT LTT WAS AN " INCREDIBLY" SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM WHICH
HAS HELPED SECURE RURAL AREAS AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS DURING THE
MILITARY STRUGGLE. HE PROMISED AN ACCELERATED PROGRAM OF RECON-
STRUCTION AND REHABILITATION, WHICH WILL INCLUDE A NEW FIVE- YEAR
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TO RAISE AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT. HE
THANKED AID DONERS FOR THEIR HELP AND PROMISED TO REFORM THE
GVN ADMINISTRATIVE APPARATUS TO BOOST RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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PROGRAMS. HIS SPEECH EMPHASIZED THE POSITIVE AND REPEATED FAMILIAR APPEALS FOR POPULAR SUPPORT FOR GVN PROGRAMS. HIS COMMENTS ON FOREIGN AID SUGGEST THAT HE MAY USE THE " UNFINISHED" BUSINES" ARGUMENT IN DISCUSSING FUTURE AMERICAN AID WITH PRESIDENT NIXON IN SAN CLEMENTE. END SUMMARY

2. PRESIDENT THIEU SPOKE MARCH 26 AT CERELICATIONS FOR BAIL.

4. WITH LIFTING OF BAN ON JASARAT, ONLY OTHER PAPER IN CONSULAR DISTRICT UNDER BAN -- BY BALUCHISTAN GOVERNOR AKBAR BUGTI -- IS " SANGAT," A PRO- NAP QUETTA URDU WEEKLY (ALLEGEDLY BACKED BY THE SOVIETS) WHOSE EDITOR RAUF WARSI IS IN HIDING AND WHOSE ASST. EDITOR MANZOOR BALUCH IS REPORTEDLY JAILED IN QUETTA. DAWN' S ALTAF GHUAHAR IS ONLY OTHER EDITOR WE KNOW OF IN JAIL, AND CHARGES AGAINST HIM OFFICIALLY DO NOT RELATE TO HIS JOURNALISM.

5. COMMENT: JASARAT' S MARCH 27 EDIT WAS UNCONTRITE, AND APPARENTLY STAFF WILL NOT BACK OFF FROM FURTHER CONFRONTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT WHEN IT SEES DEVIATION FROM PAPER' S HIGH ISLAMIC VIEW OF HOW THINGS SHOULD BE. HOWEVER, PRESSURE FOR MODERATION MAY COME FROM PAKISTAN HERALD PUBLICATIONS (DAWN) WHICH IS STILL PRINTING JASARAT AND MANY FEAR CONFISCATION OF PRESS FACILITIES IF JASARAT BANNED AGAIN. DECLASSIFY 3/27/74.
BRYANT

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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